



DELAWARE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
15 THE GREEN, DOVER, DE 19901

CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY
PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION FORM

CRS # K-7350
SPO Map 12-13-18
South
Hundred Murderkill
Quad Frederica
Other _____

1. HISTORIC NAME/FUNCTION: Merritt Property/Residence
2. ADDRESS/LOCATION: 62 Wilken Avenue, South Side of Road
3. TOWN/NEAREST TOWN: Little Heaven vicinity? ☐
4. MAIN TYPE OF RESOURCE: building ☒ structure ☐ site ☐ object ☐
 landscape ☐ district ☐
5. MAIN FUNCTION OF PROPERTY: Residence
6. PROJECT TITLE/ REASON FOR SURVEY (if applicable):
SR 1 Little Heaven Interchange

7. ADDITIONAL FORMS USED:

#:	Form:	List property types:
1	CRS 2 Main Building Form	<u>dwelling</u>
0	CRS 3 Secondary Building Form	
0	CRS 4 Archaeological Site Form	
0	CRS 5 Structure (Building-Like) Form	
0	CRS 6 Structure (Land Feature) Form	
0	CRS 7 Object Form	
0	CRS 8 Landscape Elements Form	
1	CRS 9 Map Form	<u>N/A</u>
0	CRS 14 Potential District Form	

8. SURVEYOR INFORMATION:

Surveyor name: Lauren C. Archibald

Principal Investigator name: Lauren C. Archibald

Principal Investigator signature: _____

Organization: A.D. Marble & Company Date: July 2004

9. OTHER NOTES OR OBSERVATIONS:

CRS# K-7350

10. STATE HISTORIC CONTEXT FRAMEWORK (check all appropriate boxes; refer to state management plan(s)):

a) Time period(s)

- ☐ Pre-European Contact
- ☐ Paleo-Indian
- ☐ Archaic
- ☐ Woodland I
- ☐ Woodland II

- ☐ 1600-1750∇ Contact Period (Native American)
- ☐ 1630-1730∇ Exploration and Frontier Settlement
- ☐ 1730-1770∇ Intensified and Durable Occupation
- ☐ 1770-1830∇ Early Industrialization
- ☐ 1830-1880∇ Industrialization and Early Urbanization
- ☐ 1880-1940∇ Urbanization and Early Suburbanization
- ☒ 1940-1960∇ Suburbanization and Early Ex-urbanization

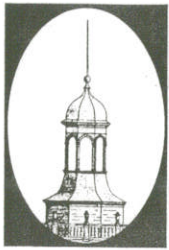
b) Geographical zone

- ☐ Piedmont
- ☒ Upper Peninsula
- ☐ Lower Peninsula/Cypress Swamp
- ☐ Coastal
- ☐ Urban (City of Wilmington)

c) Historic period theme(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation and Communication |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Forestry | <input type="checkbox"/> Settlement Patterns and Demographic Changes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trapping/Hunting | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture, Engineering and Decorative Arts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mining/Quarrying | <input type="checkbox"/> Government |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fishing/Oystering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Manufacturing | <input type="checkbox"/> Education |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Retailing/Wholesaling | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Organizations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Finance | <input type="checkbox"/> Occupational Organizations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Major Families, Individuals and Events |

USE BLACK INK ONLY



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CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY
MAIN BUILDING FORM

CRS # K-7350

1. ADDRESS/LOCATION: 62 Wilken Avenue, South Side of Road
2. FUNCTION(S): historic Residence current Residence
3. YEAR BUILT: 1950 CIRCA?: ☒ ARCHITECT/BUILDER: _____
4. STYLE OR FLOOR PLAN: Ranch House
5. INTEGRITY: original site ☒ moved ☐
if moved, from where other location's CRS # year

list major alterations and additions with years (if known) year
a. _____
b. _____
6. CURRENT CONDITION: excellent ☐ good ☒ fair ☐ poor ☐
7. DESCRIPTION: (Describe the resource as completely as possible. Use N/A for not applicable; leave no blanks.)
 - a. Overall shape: Rectangular with ell Stories: 1
Additions: _____
 - b. Structural system (if known): Frame
 - c. Foundation: materials:
basement: full ☐ partial ☒ not visible ☐ no basement ☐
 - d. Exterior walls (original if visible& any subsequent coverings): Vinyl
 - e. Roof: shape: Side gable
materials: Asphalt shingles
cornice: Aluminum
dormers: n/a
chimney: location(s): 2 interior, off center
8. DESCRIPTION OF ELEVATIONS:
 - a. Facade: Direction: W
 - 1) Bays 5
 - 2) Windows irregular
fenestration 3 pairs, 1/1 plus one picture window (large, with 9 panes total)
type double hung
trim vinyl
shutters screw on

Facade (cont'd)

- 3) Door(s) 1
 location recessed, off center
 type single leaf
 trim vinyl
- 4) Porch(es) balustrade small recessed front porch, with handicap ramp; has turned column and
- b. Side: Direction: N
- 1) Bays 2
- 2) Windows 1
 fenestration irregular
 type 1/1, double hung
 trim vinyl
 shutters n/a
- 3) Door(s) n/a
 location n/a
 type n/a
 trim n/a
- 4) Porch(es) n/a
- c. Side: Direction: S
- 1) Bays 2
- 2) Windows
 fenestration irregular
 type 1/1, double hung
 trim vinyl
 shutters screw on
- 3) Door(s) n/a
 location n/a
 type n/a
 trim n/a
- 4) Porch(es) n/a
- d. Rear: Direction: E
- 1) Bays 7
- 2) Windows 6
 fenestration irregular
 type 1/1, double hung, one picture window
 trim vinyl
 shutters screw on
- 3) Door(s) 1
 location off center
 type single leaf
 trim vinyl
- 4) Porch(es) wooden deck in front

9. INTERIOR:

10. LANDSCAPING:

11. OTHER COMMENTS:



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CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY
SECONDARY BUILDING FORM

CRS # K-7350

1. ADDRESS/LOCATION: 62 Wilken Avenue, South Side of Road
2. FUNCTION(S): historic Shed current Shed
3. YEAR BUILT: 1980 CIRCA?: ☒ ARCHITECT/BUILDER: _____
4. STYLE/FLOOR PLAN: Rectangular utility shed
5. INTEGRITY: original site ☒ moved ☐
if moved, from where original location's CRS # year

list major alterations and additions with years (if known) year
a. _____
b. _____
6. CURRENT CONDITION: excellent ☐ good ☒ fair ☐ poor ☐
7. DESCRIPTION:
 - a. Structural system Frame
 - b. Number of stories 1
 - c. Wall coverings Vertical wood boards
 - d. Foundation n/a
 - e. Roof
structural system Gable
coverings Asphalt shingles
openings n/a
8. DESCRIPTION OF ELEVATIONS:
 - a. Facade: direction: W
 - 1) bays: 1
 - 2) windows: n/a
 - 3) door(s): 1 door with 2 panels
 - 4) other: n/a

b. Side: direction: E

- 1) bays: 1
- 2) windows: n/a
- 3) door(s): one with 2 panels
- 4) other: n/a

c. Side: direction: W

- 1) bays: 1
- 2) windows: n/a
- 3) door(s): n/a
- 4) other: n/a

d. Rear: direction: N

- 1) bays: 2
- 2) windows: 1, 1/1
- 3) door(s): n/a
- 4) other: n/a

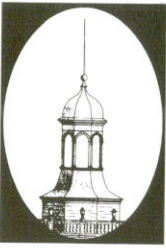
9. INTERIOR (if accessible):

a) Floor plan n/a

b) Partition/walls n/a

c) Finishes n/a

d) Furnishings/machinery n/a



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CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY
MAP FORM

CRS # K-7350

1. ADDRESS/LOCATION: 62 Wilkins Avenue, South Murderkill Hundred, Kent County

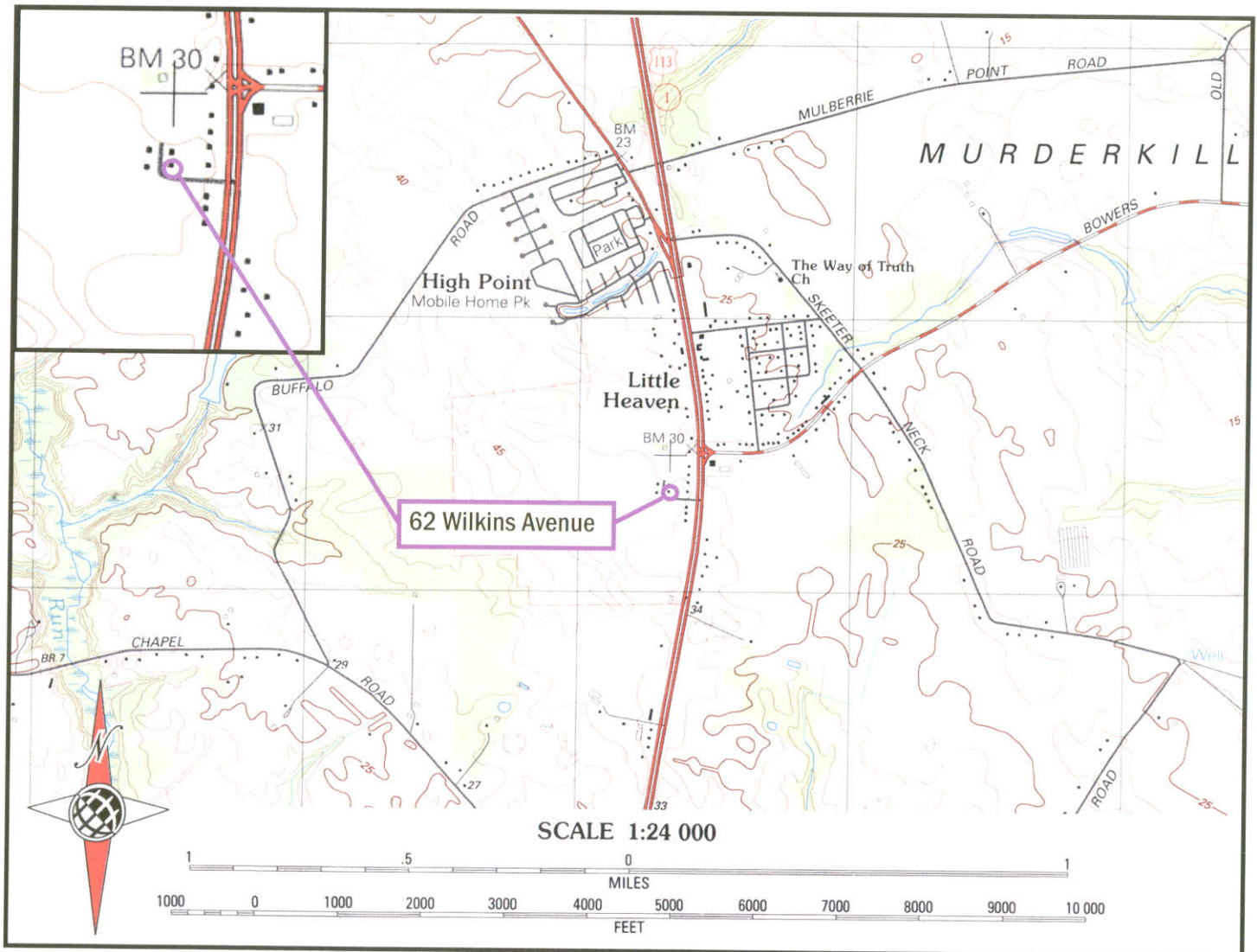
2. NOT FOR PUBLICATION ☐ reason: _____

3. LOCATION MAP:

Indicate position of resource in relation to geographical landmarks such as streams and crossroads.

(attach section of USGS quad map with location marked or draw location map)

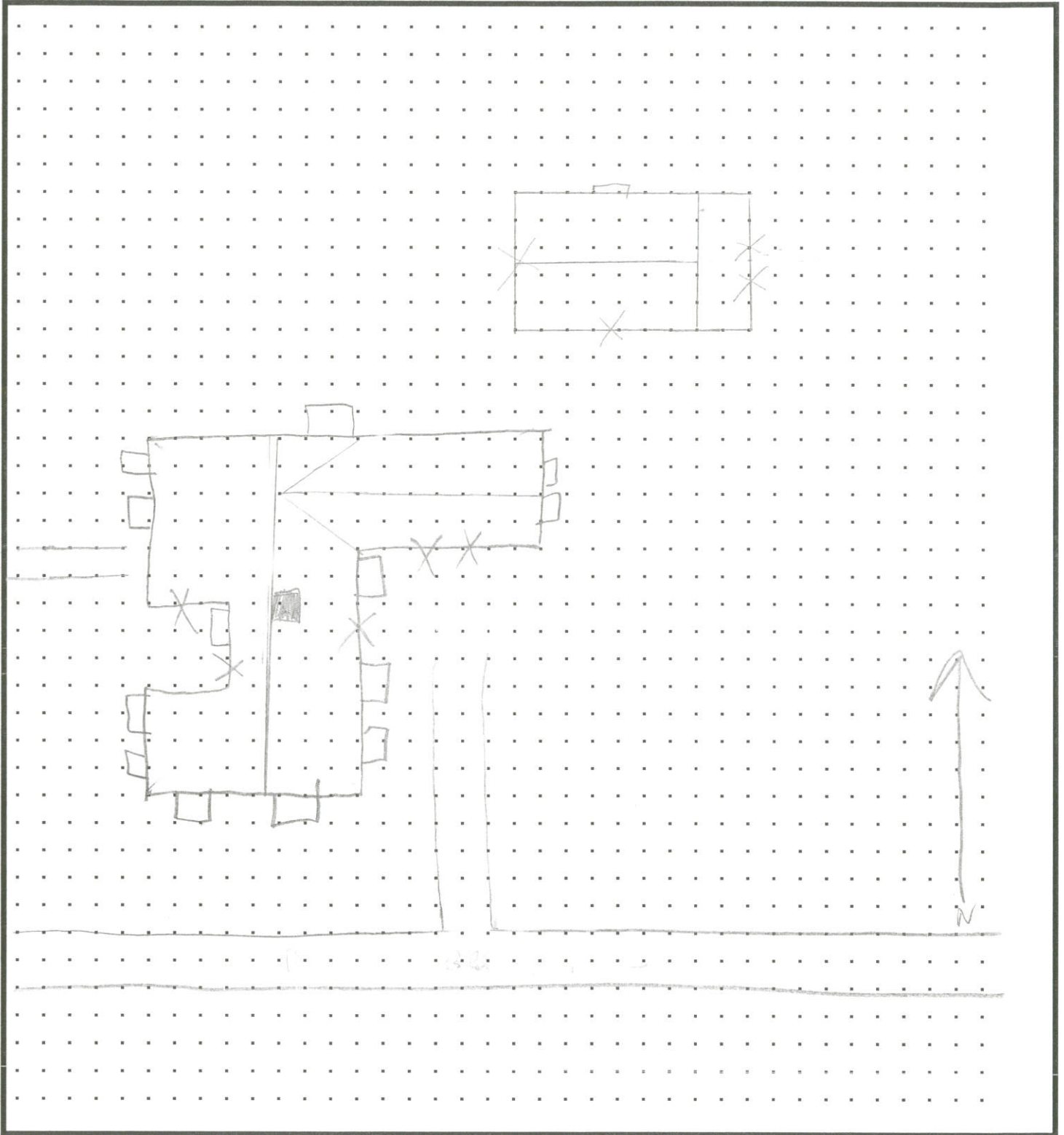
INDICATE NORTH ON SKETCH



4. SITE PLAN:

CRS # K-7350

INDICATE NORTH ON PLAN



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CRS-9

CRS #K-7350
Merritt Property

General Description. The Merritt Property is located at number 62 on the north side of Wilkins Avenue in Little Heaven, Delaware. The property includes a ranch dwelling (ca. 1950) and utility shed (ca. 1980), which are located amidst a landscaped yard space. The utility shed is located to the rear of the property, northeast of the dwelling house. Both continue under residential use. Overall, the property appears to be in good condition.

Main Building. The ranch dwelling (ca. 1950) is composed of a one-story, side gable block which faces west and measures six bays wide by two bays deep. Attached to the northern end of the rear (west) elevation is a rear ell addition, also one story in height and measuring two bays wide by two bays deep. A treated lumber deck is located at the intersection of the two blocks at the rear elevation. The frame walls of the dwelling are clad in vinyl siding. Both the original block and the rear addition are covered with shallow gable roofs that are clad in asphalt shingles and have aluminum-clad cornices. Two interior chimneys protrude from the roof. The chimney that is visible from the façade is clad in brick, while the rear chimney is constructed of concrete block.

The façade (west elevation) of the dwelling features a recessed off-center opening. This opening is accessed via a wooden ramp and leads to an entrance door and window. The windows of the façade are three, paired, double-hung one-over-one sash and a picture window. Similar to the windows at the south and east elevations, the windows of the façade are vinyl and are flanked by vinyl screw-on shutters.

The north elevation features a singular one-over-one double-hung window. The rear (east) elevation is pierced by six one-over-one windows and a picture window. A single-leaf door leads from the interior to the wooden deck. At the south elevation there are two one-over-one double-hung sash windows.

Outbuildings/Garages. A one-story frame utility shed (ca. 1980) is located northeast of the dwelling house. The rectilinear structure is of frame construction and is clad in textured grooved plywood. A small shed roof addition is attached to the east elevation. The gable roof is clad in asphalt shingles. The building faces south and has hinged doors at this elevation to provide access to the interior. A second set of hinged doors, also constructed of textured grooved plywood, are located at the east elevation in the shed addition. A singular one-over-one double-hung vinyl window flanked by vinyl shutters is located at the north elevation.

Historical Background. The property located at 62 Wilkins Avenue in Little Heaven dates from ca. 1950. The property was acquired by Robert C. Weaver, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, pursuant to the provisions of the National Housing Act and the Department of Housing and Urban Development. On January 19, 1967, Secretary Weaver conveyed the property known as Lot #14, as laid out in Ocean Drive Manor, to Defarest W. and Michelle Merritt (KCDB P24: 337).

Evaluation. The Merritt Property at 62 Wilkens Avenue is recommended not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places because it does not meet the eligibility criteria established by the National Park Service (NPS 1997). While the Merritt Property retains a dwelling house representative of mid-twentieth-century residential architecture, some of its original elevations have been obscured by modern vinyl siding and additions, and the dwelling lacks integrity of materials. The loss of integrity affects its ability to convey trends in mid-twentieth-century residential development, so it is recommended not eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion A.

Property-specific research and documentary research of the area in general did not reveal any associations between the Merritt Property and significant events or trends in local, state, or national history. Likewise, research did not reveal any associations with significant individuals; therefore, the property is recommended not eligible for listing under Criterion B. The dwelling house does not display the distinctive characteristics of a type, style, or method of construction, nor does it represent the work of a master or possess high artistic value; therefore, it is recommended not eligible under Criterion C in the area of architecture. Archaeological investigations have not yet been conducted on this property; therefore, the resource's eligibility under Criterion D (potential to yield information important to history or prehistory) cannot be assessed at this time.

Bibliography

Kent County Recorder of Deeds (KCDB)

Kent County Deed Books, Kent County Courthouse, Dover, Delaware.

National Park Service (NPS)

1997 *National Register Bulletin 15: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation*. U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.